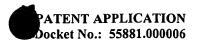
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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

An expression based pricing system comprising:
 an interface configured to receive a request to price one or more items;
 a pricing database that stores expressions that are used to determine a price
 for the one or more items; and,

a pricing engine connected to the interface and the pricing database, the pricing engine operative to create a script from the expressions and to evaluate the script to determine a price for the one or more items.

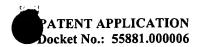
- 2. The system of claim 1 wherein the interface is configured to receive an identification of the buyer and seller of the one or more items to be priced.
- 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the pricing engine creates one or more scripts based on the identification of the buyer, the seller, and the one or more items to be priced.
- 4. The system of claim 1 wherein the interface is configured to communicate with and accept an identification of the one or more items to be priced and an identification of a buyer and a seller from an EDI transaction system.

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- 5. The system of claim 1 wherein the interface is configured to communicate with and accept an identification of the one or more items to be priced and an identification of a buyer and a seller from a shopping basket transaction system.
- 6. The system of claim 1 wherein the interface is configured to accept a sales order, the sales order comprising an identification of the one or more items to be priced and an identification of a buyer and a seller.
- 7. The system of claim 1 wherein an expression comprises a trigger and an action.
- 8. The system of claim 1 wherein the one or more items comprise a group of items, further wherein the pricing engine is operative to create a script from the expressions and to evaluate the script to determine a price for the group of items.
  - 9. A method for determining a price comprising: receiving a request to price one or more items;

creating a script that is operative to determine a price for the one or more items based on an expression language, in response to the request; and,

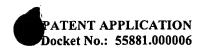
evaluating the script to determine a price for the one or more items.

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- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein receiving a request to price one or more items comprises receiving a sales order specifying the one or more items to be priced.
- 11. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of creating a script comprises:

  locating at least one expression based on the one or more items to be priced; and,

generating the script from the at least one expression.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein the step of locating at least one expression comprises:

locating identifying information from a sales order containing the request; and,

locating the at least one expression based on the identifying information.

- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the step of locating the at least one expression based on the identifying information comprises determining whether a condition based on the identifying information is satisfied.
- 14. The method of claim 12 wherein the step of locating at least one expression further comprises:

locating a contract based on the identifying information;

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locating a price plan based on the identifying information and the located contract; and,

locating a pricing schedule within the price plan.

15. The method of claim 11 wherein locating at least one expression comprises:

locating one or more pre-pricing expressions that determine a price for the one or more items; and,

locating one or more post-pricing expressions that modify the price determined by the pre-pricing expressions.

- 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the pre-pricing expressions operate to alter a sales order containing the request.
- 17. The method of claim 15 wherein the pre-pricing expressions operate to alter price for the item to be priced.
- 18. The method of claim 9 wherein the one or more items comprises a group and wherein evaluating the script comprises evaluating the script to determine a price for the group.